



Comedy Genius

FAQs

Q: I have an idea for an event in 2019 – can Comedy Genius support this?

A: Comedy Genius runs from October – December 2018 at BFI Southbank and the bulk of National campaign and funding support for UK-wide activity will be focused in this time period. We will support limited screening activity for the ICO tour into the new year however all supported activity or larger-scale projects supported through the EOI programme must complete by 31 Jan 2019.

Q: I want to programme a season celebrating stand up comedians. Does that fit this brief?

A: The focus of Comedy Genius is *on screen talent* – meaning the main focus of your programming should be on creative works and the talent featured within them. Working with local comedians to curate or introduce a season responds to this brief where hosting a stand-up night or screening recorded stand up gigs without any link to narrative works does not.

Q: Can I include foreign language films in my project?

A: Comedy Genius includes a thematic strand around European comedy with particular focus on Germany. We encourage you to respond to this theme.

Q: I want to celebrate ‘accidental classics’ such as ROOM or re-contextualise ‘straight’ films as comedy – does this fit the brief?

A: The framing focus for Comedy Genius is *on screen talent* so your programme or event needs to celebrate this – for example you may be able to contextualise an ‘accidental’ comedy as part of a wider programme or double bill. We will not support single screenings or events which do not celebrate on screen talent.

Q: Can I ‘reframe’ another genre as comedy to fit this brief?

A: No. This season is about celebrating the genius on screen of great comedy performers and stories, the recognisable faces that transport us and take us on a narrative journey within the broad church of comedy.

Q: Can I programme films from outside the ICO menu?

A: Yes. The ICO tour is commissioned to help programmers with less capacity to research and negotiate titles to participate in the season. If you are keen to compile



your own short season or have a unique programming idea that fits the creative brief, we can support you with the costs of doing this.

Q: Will you help me with programme research or negotiating deals on films?

A: Our main programming support for this season is through the ICO menu. We may be able to connect you up with other venues or projects looking at similar artists or titles however we will not be producing another package or negotiating rights directly.

Q: Will you fund costs relating to single screening fees and print costs?

A: Yes, you can apply for up to £1,000 from our Screening Support funding strand for this – this fund opens in late July.

Q: Will you fund one-off event costs – e.g. artist fees, travel?

A: Yes, you can apply for up to £1,000 from our Screening Support funding strand for this – this fund opens in late July.

Q: I'm interested in screening TV but don't know where to go for help securing rights. Can you help with this?

A: Talk to us about your project – we may be able to refer you on for specialist support, or let you know about other projects looking at the same works. Bear in mind that clearing TV rights can be a little more complex than screening films, particularly if addressing current events, music or using news footage.

Q: I still have questions about whether my project fits the brief. Can you help?

A: You can talk to us about your ideas before sending in an EOI or applying for screening support. Contact Annabel Grundy, Major Programmes Project Manager on 0115 850 7851 or annabel@filmhubmidlands.org